

The Scandia Economic Development Authority met in the Board Room at the Scandia Community Center on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 beginning at 6:30pm. Commissioners Present: Tom Triplett, Greg Isaacson, Dan Lee, and Bruce Swenson. Absent: Sally Swanson. Staff Present: Kristina Handt.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Triplett.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Isaacson to approve the August 11, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Swenson, seconded by Lee to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Jim Schneider, along with his wife Peggy and business partner Nancy Peterson, expressed concern over the EDA trying to create a new medical facility with Osceola Medical Clinic. OMC currently leases space in a commercial building owned by the Schneiders and Petersons. J. Schneider said the EDA should focus on recruiting new businesses to Scandia not moving them from one place to another. New business suggestions included a fitness center or more manufacturing. Schneider also encouraged the EDA to work on signage issues and building fronts as identified in the BRE.

Peterson shared how hard they worked to get the clinic in town and reiterated that the EDA should focus on bringing new businesses to town. She suggested a pharmacy. There are currently two spaces available in their office building.

Schneider and Peterson suggested filling up current vacancies before looking to rezone property. They would also appreciate a streamlining of processes so it's not so difficult to develop in Scandia.

The commissioners reviewed the results of the BRE surveys. Swanson had contacted some of her businesses and may have more to turn in later.

The commissioners decided to have the evening meeting with businesses on Monday, November 10th at 5:30pm followed by the regular EDA meeting. The morning meeting will be on Friday, November 14th. Handt will send out letters. The commissioners will finalize presentation materials at the October meeting.

Election of Officers: it was agreed that all position would maintain a one year term.

President: motion by Lee, seconded by Swenson to nominate Triplett for President.

Motion carried.

Vice President: motion by Lee, seconded by Isaacson to nominate Swenson for Vice President. Motion carried.

Treasurer: motion by Swenson, seconded by Isaacson to nominate Lee for Treasurer. Motion carried.

Secretary/Assistant Treasurer: Motion by Swenson, seconded by Triplett to nominate Handt for Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reports: Swenson mentioned there are no signature Welcome to Scandia signs at the main entrances to the City. How do people know they're in Scandia? This will be placed on a future agenda. Lee mentioned the need to create an avenue for businesses to interface in the absence of a chamber or rotary. Triplett mentioned the need to focus on affordable housing.

Executive Director Report: Handt shared the letter from Midcontinent about the cost to extend cable to some parts of the City. Handt will be meeting with other cities in the cable commission and Midco to discuss pursuing a broadband grant. Handt reported the EDA's checking account had been set up. Checks would be approved by the EDA in the future similar to the Council process. Handt also reported the bids on the shelters at the Cottage came in too high to meet FEMA requirements.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 7pm.

Motion by Lee, seconded by Swenson to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Kristina Handt, Secretary